

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF "HAND DELIVERY"

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the accompanying documents are being hand delivered to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on February 13, 2004.

*Annette Masiello*

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RECEIVED

In re Application of:

Nguyen, et al.

Serial No.: 09/686,004

Filing Date: October 10, 2000

Title: MINIMALLY INVASIVE VALVE  
REPAIR PROCEDURE AND APPARATUS

Examiner: U. Ho

FEB 13 2004

Group Art Unit: 3731

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicant submits for consideration in the above-identified application, a copy of the document listed on the attached Substitute Form 1449A. The Examiner is requested to make this document of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ With the patent application filing.
- ☒ Within three months of the application filing date or before receipt of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ A fee is required. A check in/including the amount of \$\* is enclosed.

Applicant would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Substitute Form 1449A, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

This Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the U.S. Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-1947 referencing Attorney Docket No. CSI-2013. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 12, 2004

By: 

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